

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7658

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: SHUM ID

SUBJECT: DUTCH TV FILM ON BURU ISLAND DETAINEES

REF: JAKARTA 12226

1. DUTCH EMBASSY GIVE PRIVATE SHOWING OF ROBERT KROON'S TV FILM ON BURU ISLAND DETENTION CAMPS FOR REPRESENTATIVES OF 12-15 FRIENDLY EMBASSIES (US, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, CANADA, WESTERN EUROPE) NOV. 9. THIRTY-MINUTE FILMS AS SHOWN ON DUTCH TV DEPICTED CAMP FACILITIES AS REASONABLY NEW AND COMFORTABLE BUT REFLECTED PATHOS OF DETAINEES WHO KNEW THEY WOULD NEVER LEAVE BURU.

2. KROON FILMED SHOTS OF FOUR OUT OF 17 CAMPS ON BURU. FEW OF THE 600 GUARDS ON THE ISLAND WERE IN EVIDENCE. DETAINEES LOOKED CLEAN AND FIT BUT HAD NO BOOKS OR RADIOS. CAMP COMMANDER SAID THERE WERE ABOUT 11,200 DETAINEES ON BURU, BUT NARRATOR SAID ACTUAL TOTAL WAS 13-14,000. A FEW SENT FOR FAMILIES TO JOIN THEM BUT MOST DID NOT. THOSE INTERVIEWED SAID THEY WERE THERE FOR HAVING BELONGED TO VARIOUS MASS ORGANIZATIONS BUT DENIED KNOWING THESE WERE COMMUNIST-

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RUN. ALL SEEMED RESIGNED TO PERMANENT EXILE ON BURU AS

"TRANSMIGRANTS" FOLLOWING EVENTUAL RELEASE FROM DETENTION.

3. DUTCH DCM STATED WELL-KNOWN CONCERN OF DUTCH GOVERNMENT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN INDONESIA PRIOR TO FILM SHOWING, BUT ASKED VIEWERS NOT TO PUBLICIZE FACT THAT FILM HAD BEEN SHOWN LOCALLY. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT KOPKAMTIB CHIEF OF STAFF ADMIRAL SUDOMO, WHO APPEARED BRIEFLY IN FILM, HAD SEEN AND APPROVED OF IT.

NEWSOM

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Message Attributes

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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